

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
	:	Examiner: Unassigned
Akitoshi YAMADA, et al.)	
	:	Group Art Unit: 2615
Application No.: 10/541,381)	
	:	
Filed: July 1, 2005)	
	:	
For: IMAGE SUPPLY DEVICE,)	
RECORDING APPARATUS,	:	March 24, 2006
RECORDING SYSTEM, AND	:	
CONTROL METHOD THEREOF	:	

Attn: Special Programs Examiner Krista Zele
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL — ACCELERATED EXAMINATION

Sir:

RELIEF REQUESTED

Applicants respectfully petition under 37 C.F.R. § 1.102 and MPEP 708.02(VIII) to make the above-referenced application special for accelerated examination.

FEE (MPEP 708.02(VIII)(A))

Please charge the petition fee of \$130.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(h) to Deposit Account 06-1205. Any deficiency should be charged and any overpayment credited to that account.

STATEMENT RE SINGLE INVENTION/ELECTION (MPEP 708.02(VIII)(B))

Applicants respectfully submit that all claims are directed to a single invention and if such is not the case then Applicants agree to make an election without traverse.

STATEMENT RE PRE-EXAMINATION SEARCH (MPEP 708.02(VIII)(C))

Applicants respectfully submit that a pre-examination search was made that was directed to the claimed invention, as shown by the April 20, 2004 International Search Report from the PCT application, PCT/JP2004/000804, which application has claims that are of the same or similar scope to the claims of the subject application. A copy of the Search Report was filed with the November 8, 2005 Information Disclosure Statement.

SUBMISSION OF MOST CLOSELY RELATED DOCUMENTS
(MPEP 708.02(VIII)(D))

Applicants respectfully submit that the documents deemed by Applicants to be most closely related to the subject matter encompassed by the claims are:

- (1) JP-A 10-229538 ("JP '538"); and
- (2) JP-A 2002-19235 ("JP '235"),

which were cited in the Search Report. Copies of those documents were filed with the November 8, 2005 Information Disclosure Statement. English-language translations of those documents are being filed with the Third Information Disclosure Statement being filed concurrently herewith.

DETAILED DISCUSSION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111(b) and (c) (MPEP 708.02(VIII)(E))

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully solicited.

Claims 14 through 21, 24 through 27, and 31 through 38 are pending, with Claims 14, 18, 24, 31, and 35 being independent.

Claims 14, 18, 31, and 35 variously recite, inter alia, controlling an issuing timing of a next command to the recording apparatus (Claims 14 and 31) or the image supply device (Claims 18 and 35) in a case where said determination means (Claims 14 and 18) or step (Claims 31 and 35) determines that the signal is not the response corresponding to the predetermined command.

Claim 24 recites, inter alia, changing an issuing timing of a next command in at least one of the image supply device and the recording apparatus, in a case where it is determined that the signal is not the response corresponding to the predetermined command in the determination step.

Applicants respectfully submit that neither JP '538 nor JP '235 discloses or suggests at least the above-discussed claimed features as recited, inter alia, in Claims 14, 18, 24, 31, and 35.

In more detail, Applicants respectfully submit that JP '538 discloses, e.g., that in order to avoid a collision between nodes connected in a network, for example, a collision of instructions between operating section of video equipment and a counterpart of a printer, it is devised so that instructions are not issued from both sides by disabling the operation of one of the above equipment. See, e.g., [0144].

Applicants respectfully submit that JP '235 is addressed to a problem wherein, according to AV/C protocol, a corresponding relation between a job that constitutes a unit of processing for printing and a subunit plug that constitutes the functional block of a printer is not specifically notified to the controller side of a digital camera, etc., so that if there is a plurality of controllers, and if requests from these controllers are issued at almost the same time, there occurs a problem of a failed printing caused by interception of a subunit plug by another interrupting job that has been initially secured by a certain job, and

that JP '235 discloses preventing multiple data transmissions to the identical subunit plug, which is achieved by a printer allocating a different subunit plug to each controller when controllers such as digital cameras, etc., access the printer.

However, Applicants respectfully submit that neither the foregoing nor the remainder of JP '538 and JP '235 provides either a description or a suggestion of at least the above-discussed claimed features including the recitations of “controlling an issuing timing” or “changing an issuing timing”.

REQUEST FOR INTERVIEW

If any questions remain, Applicants respectfully request that the Special Programs Examiner contact Applicants' undersigned representative at (202) 530-1010.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request that the instant petition to make special be granted.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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